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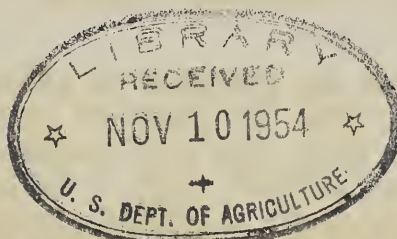


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RECREATION NEWSLETTER

July 1940



Dear Fellow Workers:

Once more National Camp has become an inspiring memory. The undertone of the world's distress gave the discussions a deeper tone than usual this year, but the courage and faith in their future that the campers brought into our thinking made the adults realize anew that courage to move forward is not lacking in the present generation.

The enclosed carnival material describes a program given quite successfully on Saturday night at Camp. Groups of eight players progressed from game to game within their own area. Colored tickets told them where to start, and a tally card giving the order of the games helped to keep them on the right route. The equipment used is available to the States. Borrowers will have to pay the express charges on the approximately 550 pounds it weighs. It is booked through September 1 at present.

We are indebted to E. I. Pilchard of Illinois for the song, Up, Up the Mountain. It was especially popular as a walking number and on the busses.

One of the dramatic events presented by a community-center group in Washington was a pantomimed version of the Pied Piper of Hamelin. Four readers, each of whom spoke in several voices, gave the poem while a costumed group pantomimed it. Whole families participated in the performance. Music played an important part in the production.

Jewell Garland of Mississippi showed me a variety of unbleached cotton materials that she is using for costumes. Some of them cost as little as 4 cents a yard and come from Anderson, S. C.

Books of Many Sorts Costing More Than \$1

The Sociology of Childhood. Francis J. Brown. 498 pp. New York, Prentice-Hall. 1939.

A textbook for courses in educational sociology but of value to parents, social and religious workers, and all others interested in the whole-some social adjustment of childhood to the complex environment of modern life. The author has limited his field to that of the normal child and devoted the



major portion of the book to an analysis of the social processes and how they affect the life of the child. The specific situations presented include the family, the play group, the school, noncommercial and commercial recreation, the state, and the church.

We, the Parents. Sidonie M. Gruenberg. 269 pp. New York, Harper & Bros. 1939.

A book that discusses the problems of infancy, childhood, adolescence, and early adult life from the parents' point of view. Discipline and authority as they relate to home life are considered; punishment is discussed. Mrs. Gruenberg believes that parents have an obligation to foster honor, loyalty, and truthfulness in their children and says, "We have to let the erring child know that we are aware of what he has done but without making him feel that he has been damned for life. The child needs sympathy that assures him, not so much of forgiveness, as of understanding. It is not a question of condoning and overlooking errors but of helping the child use them for his own growth. The parent's tact shows itself in overlooking some blunders, treating others casually and lightly, and using still others as stepping stones for the child's own advance in self-understanding and self-control. We have to make the child feel, not tell him, that our efforts come from our affection and enduring confidence, not from our resentments or annoyance."

There is an excellent chapter on sex education, another on the use of money, and one on the relation of school and home. Reading, radio, and movies are considered at some length. In the last two chapters, "Toward Adulthood" and "Parents Are People," many difficult parental problems are discussed.

Ballads and Songs. Collected by the Missouri Folklore Society, edited by H. M. Belden. Univ. Mo. Studies, vol. XV, January 1940 No. 1. 533 pp. University of Missouri, Columbia.

A large and interesting collection of ballads, some with tunes. Includes a few play party games.

Religious Folk Songs of the Negro. Edited by R. Nathaniel Dett. 236 pp. and appendix. Hampton, Hampton Institute Press, Va. 1927.

A fine though expensive collection of Negro hymns and spirituals with excellent vocal arrangements.

A Girl Grows Up. Ruth Fedder. 235 pp. Whittlesey House.

A book written directly to young girls, answering many of the questions asked of the author, who is a guidance counselor to high-school and junior high-school girls. A chapter on Growing-Up sets up standards of maturity. "You are not really an adult, you are not grown up, until you have learned how to live with your family as an independent adult; until you are able to get along with people, which includes boys and perhaps a husband; until you

have established your relationship to the world by unifying your life according to some guiding ideas which you have made your own."

Other chapters are: Gaining self-confidence; Acting your age; Growing-up emotionally; Getting on with people; Living happily with your family; Associating happily with boys; Deciding about a job; and The give and take of living. The bibliography covers topics of interest to girls, from cosmetics to careers. Girls and their leaders will find the book a helpful guide.

Seven Lean Years. T. J. Woofter, Jr., and Ellen Winston. The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill. 1939.

A study of the sweeping changes and the resultant maladjustment that has troubled rural America since 1931. The place of rehabilitation and prevention through crop control, cooperative farming, land-use planning, control of erosion, development of rural industries, and adjustment of financing rural services are pointed out. Emphasis is placed on the human elements involved in such problems as shifts in population, youth on the road, unequal opportunities in education, and health services.

Scientific Social Surveys and Research. Pauline V. Young and Calvin F. Schmid. New York City, Prentice-Hall, Inc. 1939.

A discussion of methods of making surveys in the field of sociology. Four chapters are devoted to the study of culture groups, social institutions, and community life in rural areas in comparison with urban areas.

Play Directing. By Allen Crafton. 305 pp. New York City, Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1939.

A book prepared for training amateur directors. It deals with the ways of using inexperienced actors to the greatest advantage, and suggests ingenious methods of covering up the amateur's lack of power and training. The exercises following each chapter are those which Dr. Crafton has used in his classes at the University of Kansas.

Rehearsal -- The Principles and Practice of Acting for the Stage. By Miriam Franklin. 418 pp., illustrated. New York City, Prentice-Hall, Inc. 1939.

Concrete instructions and photographs that show the novice exactly what to do and how in any dramatic situation - how to project the voice, point-up a line, cross the stage, seem old or young, register anger, fear, grief, hate, enthusiasm, surprise, happiness. Suitable exercises follow every discussion of a technique.



Introduction to Community Recreation. George D. Butler. New York City, Natl. Recreation Assoc., 315 Fourth Avenue. 1940.

An excellent compilation of facts under such headings as recreation, its nature, extent and significance, leadership, areas and facilities and their operation, activities and programs, program features and services, organization and administration problems. This book answers many questions accurately and concisely.

Training Group Workers. Emory S. Bogardus. Sociology and Social Research, vol. 23, No. 3, pp. 266-272, January-February, 1939.

An outline of a course of training for workers in leading or supervising groups.

Books Costing Less Than a Dollar

From Building to Neighborhood -- A Manual on the Decentralization of Group Work. By Abel J. Gregg and Charlotte Himber. 60 pp. New York City. Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue. 1938.

A report of a study by the Boys' Work Department of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A. describing current practices of local associations in decentralizing boys' work programs.

The philosophy of decentralized work, policies as they relate to the central board, committees, group leadership and supervision, membership, financing, and interclub councils are discussed briefly. Methods used to develop neighborhood understanding and support are described. Emphasis is laid on natural and close environmental factors, especially the family, the neighborhood play group, and the public school, as channels of influence in the boy's group experience.

Liberty and Union. Dorothy Canfield Fisher and Sarah N. Cleghorn. Crusade for Children, Empire State Building, New York City.

A play that dramatizes vividly the many blessings of our American environment. Well adapted to use by 4-H Club groups.

Choosing Our Way. United States Department of the Interior. Off. Ed. Bul. 1937, Misc. No. 1. Washington, D. C.

This illustrated publication presents an analysis of the programs in 19 demonstration centers and a survey of 431 other forums in the United States. The material included covers the history, management, promotion, and financing of public forums.

Forums for Young People. United States Department of the Interior. Off. Ed. Bul. 1937, No. 25. Washington, D. C.

A study of forum programs in high schools and for out-of-school youth, the data having been collected from questionnaires sent to schools and colleges. Material is included relating to use of forums in secondary schools and colleges in the United States and the methods used in sponsorship and organization.

Uses for Waste Materials. Compiled by the Committee on Equipment and Supplies of the Association for Childhood Education. 12 pp. Assoc. for Childhood Ed. Washington, D. C. 1939.

It Pays To Play. Mollie Heath Conn. New York City. Womans Press, 600 Lexington Avenue.

Original ideas for games and parties, discussions of the value of recreation, types of parties, principles that apply to all parties, qualities for leadership, and the organization that must go into making a party successful. A good discussion is included of the possibilities for group and creative expression in the old, familiar, and more artistic forms of recreation such as dancing, singing, reading, and dramatics. There are sections on crafts, on "Inviting the Birds," on how to build fires, how to rig-up a pot hanger, and on what to do at an out-of-door party.

Posture and Body Mechanics. Loraine Frost. University of Iowa, Iowa City.

Discussions of the values and analysis of good body mechanics; descriptions of good mechanics in sitting, walking, and other common activities, and a description of the Iowa Posture Test.

Singing Games. Lawrence V. Loy. Mass. State Col. Ext. Leaflet 187, 20 pp. May 1940. Amherst.

Lyrics, tunes, and clear directions for 16 well chosen games, well adapted to mixed groups.

#### Free Bulletins

A complete list of Listeners' Aids. Available from the National Broadcasting Co., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City. A free descriptive list.

Columbia's American School of the Air Teachers' Manual and Classroom Guide. Department of Education, Columbia Broadcasting System, 485 Madison Avenue, New York City.

A free booklet giving suggestions for use of radio in school. It includes tunes and words of songs and many types of excellent bibliographies on widely varied subjects.



Films

The Films Division of the Bell and Howell Co., 1801 Larchmont Avenue, Chicago, Ill., recently announced that the first 1940 supplement of the Filmosound Library Film Book will be distributed free upon request to owners of 16-mm. sound projectors. Travel and geographic features, industrial vocations, nature, science, health, sport, music, and news are among the subject matter of the new films. The 1940 B&H Silent Film Book, a catalog of silent films, will be sent without charge to all owners of 16-mm. silent projectors.

The National Industrial Council, 14 West Forty-ninth Street, New York City, announces the availability of four motion pictures presenting the drama of American industry. The four films are: *America Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow* (16-mm. or 35-mm., sound only); *Frontiers of the Future* - a glimpse of the research activities in which great industries are engaged (16-mm. or 35-mm., sound only); *America Marching On*, the story of a country miller introducing dramatically the pattern of American progress (16-mm. or 35-mm., sound; 16-mm. silent); and *Men and Machines*, an analysis of the question, Has the machine created jobs? (16-mm. or 35-mm., sound; 16-mm., silent). The showing time for the first two films is 10 minutes; for the third and fourth, 10 minutes, sound, 20 minutes, silent. These films are available without cost to community groups, the only charge being the prepayment of return shipment. From Recreation Bulletin Service, National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

Free films on sports and travel are available through:

Cycle Trades of America, Chanin Building, New York City.

Motor Vehicle Department of Wisconsin, Madison.

Tide Water Associated Oil Co., San Francisco, Calif.

Employers' Mutual Insurance Co., Wausau, Wis.

Camera Club Photographic Service, Eastman Kodak Co.,

343 State Street, Rochester, N. Y.

National League Film Bureau, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City.

Burton Holmes Films, Inc., 7510 North Ashland Avenue, Chicago.

This letter is being finished in Massachusetts, where 4-H groups are camping in tents on the campus just as others are all over the country, singing, laughing, exchanging experiences, and checking up with staff members and other campers on the things they are learning by doing in these busy and important days of their youth.

Cordially yours,

Ella Gardner,  
Recreation Specialist.

Enclosures.